

HOUSE BILL 974

By McCord

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5;  
Title 9; Title 16; Title 18 and Title 40, relative to  
payment of court costs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16, Chapter 3, Part 8, is amended by  
adding the following as a new section:

§ 16-3-822.

(a) The administrative office of the courts, in consultation with the  
Tennessee court clerks' association and the department of finance and  
administration, shall study the necessity of requiring that funds be transferred  
between a county government and a court clerk in order to close case files for  
criminal and juvenile court cases where the defendant has been found indigent.  
The study shall include, but is not limited to, an assessment of efficient methods  
whereby court clerks who are not compensated based on a percentage of their  
collections may close the case files of indigent defendants without requiring that  
funds be transferred between the county government and the court clerk. The  
study shall also determine if any changes necessary to streamline the fund  
transfer procedure can be instituted administratively or otherwise without the  
necessity of legislation.

(b) The administrative office of the courts shall reports its findings and  
conclusions to the judiciary committee of each house of the general assembly no  
later than December 15, 2009.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.